

REMARKS

Applicants note the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement herein on November 11, 1999 and note that no copy of the PTO-1449 was returned with the outstanding Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the information cited on the PTO-1449 be made of record herein.

The Office Action mailed July 14, 2005, has been received and reviewed. Claims 4, 10, and 20 are currently pending in the application. Claims 4, 10, and 20 stand rejected. Applicants have amended claims 4, 10, and 20, and respectfully request reconsideration of the application as amended herein.

35 U.S.C. § 251 Claim Rejections

Claims 4, 10, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 251, as being based upon a defective reissue declaration under 35 U.S.C. § 251. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as hereinafter set forth.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

The amendments to claims 4, 10, and 20 above should be entered by the Examiner because the amendments are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings and do not add any new matter to the application. Further, the amendments do not raise new issues or require a further search.

CONCLUSION

Claims 4, 10, and 20 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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